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ABSTRACT

During the fall of 1975, career program coordinators at Johnson County Community College (JCCC) contacted students who graduated from their programs that year and non-graduates who left with marketable skills. The study population consisted of 177 graduates, 41 non-graduates with marketable skills, and 7 hearing impaired students. Contact was made by telephone, either directly or through a work associate or close relative. Hearing impaired students were contacted in person. Information concerning JCCC training and present employment and/or education was obtained on 196 former students. Results indicated that 84% were employed in a job for which they had trained or in a related job, 10% were employed in an unrelated area, 4% were attending school, and 2% were unemployed. Sixty-seven percent felt their training had helped them obtain their job. Overall, 48% rated their program excellent, 45% good, 6% adequate, and 1% poor. The report details the study findings for each of the ten career programs involved, and provides comparisons with previous career follow-up studies. The interview instrument utilized in the study is appended. (JDS)

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1975 CAREER STUDENT FOLLOW-UP
INITIAL PLACEMENT

Prepared for Administrative Review

April 1976

Office of Institutional Research
Johnson County Community College
College Boulevard at Quivira Road
Overland Park, Kansas 66210

JC 760 452

PREFACE

To justify expenditure of state and federal vocational funds on career programs, JCCC is required to submit VE-60 forms each year to the Kansas State Department of Education and the Kansas Manpower Utilization System for Training (KMUST). Although these forms require only limited information on the employment status of graduates and non-graduates with marketable skills, JCCC takes this opportunity to obtain additional information for use in an on-going self-evaluation process.

This document summarizes the general procedure and findings for the initial placement follow-ups of career students who left JCCC in 1975 with marketable skills. The students were contacted by either the appropriate career program coordinator or someone delegated by the coordinator. Mr. Darrell Matthews contacted all Hearing Impaired students.

Additional information concerning the follow-up can be obtained from Michael Quanty, who was responsible for the preparation of this report.

Elaine L. Tatham
Director of Institutional Research

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
PREFACE	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ii
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. METHOD	1
Subjects	1
Procedure	2
III. RESULTS	2
General Findings	2
Data Processing	3
Dental Hygiene	4
Drafting	5
Electrical-Electronics Technology	5
Fashion Merchandising	6
Law Enforcement	7
Marketing and Management	7
Nursing	8
Secretarial Careers	8
Basic Police Training	9
Emergency Medical Technology	9
Hearing Impaired Program	10
IV. SUMMARY	10
Current Results	11
Comparisons to Previous Career Follow-ups	11
TABLES	13
APPENDIX. Survey Instrument	16

1975 CAREER STUDENT FOLLOW-UP INITIAL PLACEMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

During the fall of 1975, career program coordinators contacted students who graduated from their programs that year and non-graduates who left with marketable skills. These initial placement follow-ups are required for all state certified career programs. To complete the mandatory VE-60 form, each of these students needed to be placed in one of the following seven categories: employed in program area, employed in a related area, employed in an unrelated area, attending school in an area related to their training, attending school in an unrelated area, unemployed, or deceased/disabled. In order to maintain current information on career programs, respondents were asked additional questions regarding their JCCC training and present employment and/or education. Several program coordinators also added questions of special interest to their staffs.

II. METHOD

Subjects

Subjects were 177 graduates and 41 non-graduates with marketable skills who left the following ten career programs at JCCC during the 1974-75 academic year: Basic Police Training, Data Processing, Dental Hygiene, Drafting, Electrical-Electronics Technology, Fashion Merchandising, Law Enforcement, Marketing & Management, Nursing, and Secretarial Careers. Contact was made with 94 percent of these 218 individuals either directly or through a relative or work associate. Seven students from the hearing impaired program were also contacted. Two of these were jointly enrolled in career programs.

Procedure

Persons from the various career programs attempted to contact their normal hearing former students by telephone. Hearing impaired students were contacted personally by a member of the College Learning Center staff. If a person could not be contacted directly, the interviewer attempted to obtain as much information as possible from a close relative or work associate of the individual. A copy of the basic interview instrument is included in the Appendix.

Completed interview records were used by the Dean of Instruction's Office for completion of the VE-60 forms and then forwarded to the Office of Institutional Research for use in completing this report.

III. RESULTS

General Findings

During the 1974-75 academic year, a total of 177 students graduated from the programs included in this initial placement follow-up and another 41 left with marketable skills. Information was obtained on 196 of these 218 individuals either through direct contact or contact with someone who knew their employment history. Employment data for those students contacted are summarized in Table 1. Of the 196 former students, 87 percent (N=170) were employed in a job for which they had trained or in a job related to their training.

These totals, however, may be somewhat misleading because they include data from two in-service programs, Basic Police Training and Emergency Medical Technology. To be admitted to these programs a person must already be working in those areas. If these two programs are eliminated from the analyses, a total of 176 students were enrolled in

a career program which was not an in-service program and 89 percent (N=156) were contacted. Of these 156 former students, 63 percent were employed in a job for which they had trained and 21 percent were employed in a job related to their training. Thus, 84 percent of the former career students were using their program skills on the job. Another 10 percent were employed in an area unrelated to their JCCC training, 4 percent were attending school and 2 percent were unemployed.

Table 2 shows the percentages of students from the eight regular career programs using program skills who felt that JCCC training helped them obtain their jobs and the percentages who felt their training had been adequate to meet job demands. Overall, 67 percent of the former students felt that their training had helped them obtain their jobs and 93 percent felt that JCCC could adequately prepare persons for their jobs. (Percentages are based only on students who responded to the questions. No responses were recorded for 12 persons on the first question and 11 on the second.)

Student's perceptions of the quality of the various career programs are displayed in Table 3. In every case, at least 80 percent of the students responding rated their program as either good or excellent. Overall, 48 percent rated their program as excellent, 45 percent good, 6 percent adequate, and 1 percent poor.

The sections which follow give a brief summary of findings for each career program and the hearing impaired program.

Data Processing

Data processing graduated 13 students in 1975 and an additional 14 individuals left the program with marketable skills. Of these 27 students,

20 were contacted. Five of those who were not contacted were Marines stationed in other states or overseas. All 20 of the former students contacted were employed full-time. Six were employed in the area for which they had trained at JCCC, ten in a related area, and four in an area unrelated to their JCCC training (three of these latter four were Marines). Thus, 80 percent of the students were using their program skills on a job. The average reported salary was $12,594 per year (range was $4,320 to $19,000).

Ten of the 16 students using program skills responded to the questions asking if their JCCC training had helped them obtain their job and if JCCC training could provide adequate preparation for their job. Two students (20 percent) reported that their training had helped them obtain their job and eight (80 percent) said the training had been adequate preparation for their job. All but two of the 20 students rated the program. Of these 18, fifty percent (N=9) felt the program was excellent, forty-four percent (N=8) felt it was good and six percent (N=1) felt it was poor.

Dental Hygiene

All 15 of the graduates from the dental hygiene program were contacted and all were employed as dental hygienists; ten were employed full-time and five part-time. The average annual salary of those employed full-time was $9,753 (range was $7,020 to $12,000). Twelve students responded to the question asking whether their course work at JCCC had helped them obtain their job and eleven (92 percent) of the twelve felt that their training did help. All but one of the 15 graduates (93 percent) felt that JCCC training could provide adequate preparation for their

jobs. Of the 15 graduates, 47 percent (N=7) rated the program as excellent, 47 percent (N=7) rated it as good, and 6 percent (N=1) as adequate.

Drafting

Nine students left the drafting program with marketable skills in 1975. Six of these nine were graduates and three withdrew but did have marketable skills. At the time of follow-up, seven were employed full-time, one part-time, and one was enrolled full-time in a related program at a four-year college. Seven of the nine former students were working as draftsmen, and one was a hearing impaired person who was serving as a dorm parent at the Kansas School for the Deaf. Six of the seven employed as draftsmen said that JCCC training could adequately prepare persons for their jobs. Six of the seven students employed as draftsmen responded to the question asking whether their JCCC course work had helped them obtain their job. Five of the six felt it had, and one felt it had not.

Seven people responded to the question asking them to rate the drafting program. One former student rated it as excellent, and the remaining six said it was good. The average reported salary of those employed full-time was $7,560 per year with a low of $6,000 and a high of $9,000. (The salary for the dorm parent was $6,000 per year plus room and board, so an arbitrary decision was made to add $200 per month to the base salary which resulted in a total annual salary of $8,400).

Electrical-Electronics Technology

Twenty students left the electrical-electronics program with marketable skills; 16 graduated and four did not complete the program. Nine of the graduates were Marines who had been sent to JCCC to upgrade their

skills. Due to the difficulty and expense involved in tracing them, they were not contacted. Sixty-four percent (N=7) of the eleven students contacted were using their program skills on the job eitner in a job for which they had trained (N=3) or in a related area (N=4). Two students were employed in areas unrelated to their training but planned eventually to use their skills. One student was enrolled full-time in school and one was unemployed.

Of the seven students using their program skills, three felt that their JCCC coursework had helped them obtain employment, and six said that JCCC could adequately prepare persons for their jobs. Of the ten students who rated the program, forty percent (N=4) felt it was excellent, forty percent (N=4) felt it was good, and twenty percent (N=2) rated the program as adequate.

The average annual salary reported by those working full-time was $7,298 (range was $5,400 to $12,000).

Fashion Merchandising

Five students graduated from the fashion merchandising program in 1975 and six left with marketable skills. Eighty-two percent (N=9) of these eleven were employed full-time in areas directly relevant to their training. One of the other two former students was employed full-time in an unrelated area, while the other was a full-time student. All ten students actually contacted rated the program as either excellent (N=4) or good (N=6). Of the eight actually contacted and who were working in an area directly related to their training, seven reported that the training helped them obtain their job. Everyone who responded said the program provided adequate preparation. The average salary reported was $5,603 per year (range was $4,620 to $9,600).

Law Enforcement

Fifteen students graduated from the law enforcement program and another one left with marketable skills in 1975. Two of these 16 students were attending school full-time in a related program. The other 14 were employed with 11 employed full-time and three employed part-time. Seven of the 16 former students were working in the area for which they had trained. Six of these seven responded to the questions about JCCC training; three felt their course work had helped them obtain their job and all six felt JCCC could adequately prepare persons for their jobs. The other seven employed persons were working in areas unrelated to their training. Six of these seven responded to the question asking if they eventually intended to work in their program area; five said they did and one was not sure. Nine of those employed were also attending school, seven part-time and two full-time. The average salary of those working full-time was $10,180 per year with a range of $4,160 to $12,200.

Ratings of the program were obtained from thirteen students. All 13 rated it as either excellent (N=4) or good (N=9).

Marketing and Management

Twenty-six students left the marketing and management program with marketable skills; 13 graduated and 13 withdrew from the program. One student could not be contacted, but the other twenty-five cooperated fully. All twenty-five were employed either full-time (N=20) or part-time (N=5). All were employed in a position for which they had been trained (48 percent) or one related to their training (52 percent). Seven students said the JCCC training helped them obtain their job and twenty-two said the training had adequately prepared them for their job.

All students rated the program as excellent (N=15) or good (N=10). The average annual salary of those employed full-time was $10,145 (range was $3,600 to $19,000). Four of the five people employed only part-time were also enrolled in school, while the fifth was earning $10,000 per year.

Nursing

The nursing program graduated 41 students in 1975; 39 were contacted. All 39 of those contacted were employed as nurses; 35 were employed in jobs for which they had trained and four in related fields. Thirty-one (79 percent) were full-time employees while the other eight (21 percent) were employed part-time. The average salary for those employed full-time was $9,553 per year (range was $6,000 to $10,629). All 39 of the students felt that their JCCC course work had helped them obtain their job. Thirty-seven students responded to the question asking whether they felt their JCCC training had adequately prepared them for their job; 36 (97 percent) felt that it had, while one (3 percent) felt unprepared. Thirty-eight students rated the program; thirty-two percent (N=12) said it was excellent, 53 percent (N=20) rated it as good, 13 percent (N=5) rated it as adequate and two percent (N=1) as poor. Five students were also continuing their education.

Secretarial Careers

Six students completed the secretarial careers program in 1975 and five others left with marketable skills. Ten were contacted and one could not be reached. Seven of the ten contacted were employed full-time, one was attending school full-time, and two were unemployed. Three former students worked in a job for which they had trained, three in a

related area, and one in an unrelated area. All six of the students in jobs related to their training said that JCCC could provide adequate job preparation and three said that their course work had helped them obtain their job. All ten students contacted rated the program. Five of these ten students rated the program as excellent, three rated it as good, and two rated it as adequate. Five of the seven employed students reported their salaries; the average was $6,554 per year, with a range of $5,300 to $7,800.

Basic Police Training

Twenty people completed the Basic Police Training program in 1975. Nineteen of these were either contacted personally or followed up by talking to their supervisors. Eighteen (95 percent) were employed as police officers and one (5 percent) was enrolled full-time in school. Most applicants did not respond to the question asking whether their JCCC course work had helped them obtain their job because the program was designed specifically for people already employed as police officers. Data on the program ratings are not reported since many of the applicants could not be contacted directly.

The average reported annual salary for those employed full-time was $9,954. Salaries ranged from $8,000 to $11,000 per year.

Emergency Medical Technology

Twenty-two people completed the basic emergency medical technology program in 1975. The program coordinator was able to contact twenty-one of these individuals. Nine respondents worked for the fire department, one was a policeman, and eleven were fire department rescue volunteers. Three of the latter also used their program skills on their job.

All students who replied to the question felt the program could adequately train persons for their jobs. Program ratings were obtained from 20 students. Eighty-five percent (N=17) rated it as excellent and the remaining 15 percent (N=3) rated the program as good.

Hearing Impaired Program

Seven students left the hearing impaired program during 1975. Two of these students were also enrolled in career programs at JCCC, one in drafting and the other in electronics. Both of these students were employed full-time but neither was working in an area requiring the job skills acquired at JCCC. Of the other five students, two were employed, two were attending four-year colleges and the other was staying at home to be with a retired spouse.

The five students not attending college were contacted directly and asked to rate the program. Four of the five rated it as good and one as excellent. Annual salaries for the four employed students ranged between $7,500 and $9,500 with an average of $8,275. (One student was a dorm parent at Kansas School for the Deaf and received $6,000 per year plus room and board. His salary was estimated at $8,400 annually.)

IV. SUMMARY

During the year 1974-75, 177 students graduated from ten career programs at JCCC. An additional 41 students who did not graduate left with marketable skills. Of these 218 former students, 196 (94 percent) were contacted either directly or through a relative or work associate. Seven former students in the hearing impaired program were contacted. Two of these seven were concurrently enrolled in a career program.

Current Results

The major results of the 1974-75 follow-up are listed below.

. The majority of career students contacted in this initial placement follow-up were employed in their program area (70 percent) or a related area (17 percent).

. Most students working in areas related to their training felt that their JCCC course work had helped them obtain their job (67 percent) and nearly all felt that JCCC could provide adequate job preparation (93 percent).

. Most respondents (93 percent) rated their respective career programs as good (45 percent) or excellent (48 percent).

. All former students in the hearing impaired program who were actually contacted rated the program as either excellent or good. Of the seven students who left the program, two had transferred to four-year colleges, four were employed, and one was not seeking employment. The annual mean salary was $8,275 for the four employed.

Comparisons to Previous Career Follow-ups

Initial placement follow-ups for career students have been conducted for the last four years. The first such follow-up was for seven career programs. When new career programs had been in existence long enough for students to graduate, the number of programs included was increased. However, the last three studies have included questions which permit comparisons. The general results for the last three career follow-ups are summarized below.

. The overall percentage of former career students employed in their program area or a related area at initial placement has been over 80 percent for the last three years (83 percent for class of 1972-73,

84 percent for class of 1973-74 and 87 percent for class of 1974-75).

. The overall percentage of former career students responding that JCCC course work provided adequate job preparation has remained approximately 93 percent for the last three years.

. For the last three years, almost 70 percent of the former career students have responded that the JCCC course work helped them obtain their job. It should be noted, however, that many students, especially those in in-service programs were already employed in their career area before enrolling at JCCC so they could not credit their job placement to JCCC course work.

. The percentage of students unemployed at the time of initial placement was five percent for the class of 1972-73 but has been only one percent for the classes of 1973-74 and 1974-75.

. The percentage of students continuing their education and not working at the time of initial placement has remained approximately four to six percent.

. Over 90 percent of the respondents rated their programs at JCCC as either excellent or good.

. Former hearing impaired students consistently rate the program as either excellent or good. They also find employment if they seek a position. Some continue their education by transferring to four-year institutions.

Table 1

EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF FORMER CAREER STUDENTS
1974-75

Program	Graduates	Withdrawals with Marketable Skills	Number Contacted	Number Working			Number Not Working		
				In Program Area	In Related Area	In Unrelated Area	Attending School	Unemployed	Disabled/ Deceased
Data Processing (N=27)	13	14	20	6 (30%)	10 (50%)	4 (20%)	0	0	0
Dental Hygiene (N=15)	15	0	15	15 (100%)	0	0	0	0	0
Drafting (N=9)	6	3	9	7 (78%)	0	1 (11%)	1 (11%)	0	0
Electrical-Electronics Technology (N=20)	16	4	11	3 (27%)	4 (37%)	2 (18%)	1 (9%)	1 (9%)	0
Fashion Merchandising (N=11)	5	6	11	9 (82%)	0	1 (9%)	1 (9%)	0	0
Law Enforcement (N=16)	15	1	16	7 (44%)	0	7 (44%)	2 (12%)	0	0
Marketing & Management (N=26)	13	13	25	13 (52%)	12 (48%)	0	0	0	0
Nursing (N=41)	41	0	39	35 (90%)	4 (10%)	0	0	0	0
Secretarial Careers (N=11)	11	0	10	3 (30%)	3 (30%)	1 (10%)	1 (10%)	2 (20%)	0
In-Service Programs									
Basic Police Training (N=20)	20	0	19	18 (95%)	0	0	1 (5%)	0	0
Emergency Medical Technology (N=22)	22	0	21	21 (100%)	0	0	0	0	0
Totals (N=218)	177	41	196 (94%)	137 (70%)	33 (17%)	16 (8%)	7 (4%)	3 (1%)	0

Table 2

CAREER STUDENT'S PERCEPTIONS OF THE BENEFITS
OF JCCC TRAINING
1974-75

Program	Did your JCCC coursework help you obtain the job? Yes	No	Do you feel the JCCC program can adequately prepare a person for this type of job? Yes	No
Data Processing	20%	80%	80%	20%
Dental Hygiene	92	8	93	7
Drafting	83	17	86	14
Electrical-Electronics Technology	43	57	86	14
Fashion Merchandising	88	12	100	0
Law Enforcement	50	50	100	0
Marketing & Management	28	72	88	12
Nursing	100	0	97	3
Secretarial Careers	50	50	100	0
Overall Summary	67	33	93	7

Notes.--1. The above percentages are based on responses of students employed in their program area or a related field. Many "no" responses to the question concerning whether JCCC course work helped students obtain their jobs are due to the fact that many employed students enrolled in the programs to improve their job skills rather than to prepare for entry into the job market.

2. Since the Basic Police Training and Emergency Medical Technology programs were in-service offerings designed specifically for persons already employed in those areas, the questions were not really applicable.

Table 3

PERCEPTIONS OF THE JCCC CAREER PROGRAM
1974-75

Program	Percentage of Respondents Rating Program as: Excellent	Good	Adequate	Poor
Data Processing	50%	44%	6%	0%
Dental Hygiene	47	47	6	0
Drafting	14	86	0	0
Electrical-Electronics Technology	40	40	20	0
Emergency Medical Technology	85	15	0	0
Fashion Merchandising	40	60	0	0
Law Enforcement	31	69	0	0
Marketing & Management	60	40	0	0
Nursing	32	53	13	2
Secretarial Careers	50	30	20	0
Summary	48	45	6	1

Note.--Not enough students from the Basic Police Training program could be directly contacted to derive meaningful percentages. Most of the information concerning these students was obtained from supervisors.

APPENDIX

SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Student's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ S.S.# _____

CALL RECORD

Time	Date	# called	Respondent	Call back

Person giving final interview: _____

Notes: _____

_____

BEGIN INTERVIEW

Is this the residence of (Student's Name)?

May I speak to (Student's Name)? (If not available, record day, time, and phone # for call back).

This is (your name) of Johnson County Community College. The College is conducting a follow-up study of students who have been enrolled in our career programs. This is to obtain information required by the State and to more accurately assess the effectiveness of our career programs. May I ask you a few questions?

Let me begin by checking to see if our information is correct.

Your name is (See above) _____

Your Social Security number is _____

Your address _____

Your home phone _____

1. What is your age?_____ Sex? Male_____ Female_____

Marital status? _____Married
_____Single

2. Are you currently in the Armed Forces:

_____Yes (Reserves?_____)
_____No

3. Are you currently employed?

_____Yes Full-time?_____ Part-time?_____

What is your job title?_____

Who is your employer?_____

_____

Address City State Phone #

Would you say that your current job is:

_____1. The occupation for which you trained.

_____2. An occupation related to your training:

a. Did your JCCC course work help you obtain the job?
_____Yes
_____No

b. Do you feel the JCCC program can adequately prepare a person for this type of job?
_____Yes
_____No

c. Overall, would you rate the JCCC program as being:
_____Excellent _____Adequate
_____Good _____Poor

d. What is your gross annual salary (before O.T. and taxes?)
$_____ Monthly $_____

_____3. An occupation not related to your training

a. What is your gross annual salary (before O.T. and taxes?)
$_____ Monthly $_____

b. Do you intend to ultimately work in a job related to your program area?
_____Yes
_____No

c. Overall, would you rate the JCCC program as being:
_____Excellent _____Adequate
_____Good _____Poor

_____No Are you seeking employment:
_____Yes
_____No

Overall, would you rate the JCCC program as being:
_____Excellent _____Adequate
_____Good _____Poor

4. Are you currently attending school?

_____Yes Full-time?_____ Part-time?_____

a. What school are you attending?_____

b. Are you in school in vocational or technical teaching training?
_____Yes
_____No

c. Are you in school in a field related to your training at JCCC?
_____Yes
_____No

d. What is the highest grade level you have completed?_____

_____No (If unemployed determine if: disabled_____ or deceased_____)

5. Do you have any questions or comments that you would like to make concerning JCCC?

_____

_____

_____

_____

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS - NURSING

1. In what area of nursing do you feel you were best prepared to practice?

   _____

2. In what area of nursing do you feel you were the least prepared to practice?

   _____

3. If you could add something to your basic preparation, what would it be? ____

   _____

   _____

4. How do you feel you compare to other graduates in your ability to give high quality patient care?

   _____

   _____

5. What was your initial position following graduation? _____

   _____

   What is your position at this time? _____

   _____

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS - MARKETING AND MANAGEMENT

1. Would you be interested in participating in an alumni group?
   _____Yes
   _____No
   _____Maybe

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS - DATA PROCESSING

1. If JCCC training did not help them obtain their job:

   1. Did the JCCC course work upgrade your previous job skill?
      _____Yes
      _____No

   2. Did the JCCC course work help you with professional advancement?
      _____Yes
      _____No

2. What additional courses would you like to have? _____

   _____

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS - DRAFTING AND ELECTRONICS PROGRAMS

For Three-Year Follow-up:

Question #3 - Add following questions on the end:

If working in unrelated area or unemployed:

1. Since you left JCCC have you ever worked in a job related to your training? Yes_____ No_____

   Why did you change jobs (or quit working)? _____

   _____

If working in related area:

1. Is your current job your only job since leaving JCCC?
   _____Yes
   _____No

   If Yes:

   How has your job title or your position changed since you began this job?

   _____

   _____

   If No:

   Was your previous job (jobs) related to your training?
   _____Yes
   _____No

   Why did you change jobs? _____

   _____

Question #5 - Ask for number of College Credits.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES
SEP 24 1976
CLEARINGHOUSE FOR
JUNIOR COLLEGES

For One-Year Follow-up:

Question #5 - also ask for number of College Credits.

Add after question #3 - If not related or unemployed:

Were you previously employed in a job related to your training?
_____Yes
_____No

If Yes:

Why did you change jobs (or quit working)? _____

_____